

P22017.A01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Joseph CRESTIN et al.
Serial No : Not Yet Assigned (National Stage of PCT/FR01/02248)
Filed : Concurrently Herewith (International Filing Date July 12, 2001)
For : DEVICE FOR AXIALLY RETAINING A CYLINDRICAL
ELEMENT AND MORE PARTICULARLY A CABLE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and the examination of the above-identified patent application on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 3 as follows (a marked-up copy of the amendment is provided in the attached Appendix):

3. (Amended) Device according to claim 1 characterised in that it is provided with a tubular packing seal (5) intended to be inserted in the final position between the cylindrical element (1), the sleeve (4) and the strips (9) of the coupling bushing (3).

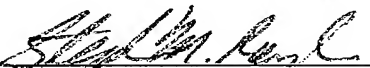
P22017.A01

REMARKS

By the above amendment, claim 3 has been amended to delete multiple dependency.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph CRESTIN et al.


Neil F. Greenblum
Reg. No. 28,394

Reg. No.
31,196

March 20, 2002
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1941 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191

1008640 044000
"00140" 54988001

3. (Amended) Device according to [either one or the other of claims 1 and 2] claim 1 characterised in that it is provided with a tubular packing seal (5) intended to be inserted in the final position between the cylindrical element (1), the sleeve (4) and the strips (9) of the coupling bushing (3).